

Attorney's Docket No.: 34874-079 / 2003P00155 US

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending, with claims 1, 7, and 18 being independent. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and allowance of the current application are requested.

Title

Applicants request correction in the title of the present application. As originally submitted, the title was "Improved Authentication Scheme and Method." Currently, the Patent Application Information Retrieval system indicates the title as "Authentication Scheme System and Method."

Rejections under § 103

Claims 1-19 are rejected under section 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over a combination of two or more of Patterson et al (U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 200210053023; "Patterson"), Busboom et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2006/0053296; "Busboom"), and Watanabe (U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 2003/0084289; Watanabe). These rejections are traversed.

In a previous response a declaration was filed under Rule 1.131 and that declaration was rejected as being insufficient. That declaration, a revised schedule A, and arguments are submitted that show a sufficient possession of the claimed subject matter by the inventor prior to the earliest effective date of the Busboom reference such that the Busboom reference is not prior art. As the Busboom reference is not prior art, the rejections should be withdrawn as none of the remaining references disclosure features of the claimed subject matter such that the claimed subject matter is not obvious.

Legal Sufficiency of Declaration

As an initial matter, it is noted that the sufficiency of a declaration under rule 1.131 need not show an identical disclosure of claimed subject matter, but, rather, possession of the claimed invention. In particular, section 715.02 of the MPEP states, in part:

"The 37 CFR 1.131 affidavit or declaration must establish possession of either the whole invention claimed or something falling within the claim (such as a species of a claimed genus), in the sense that the claim as a whole reads on it... .

Even if applicant's 37 CFR 1.131 affidavit is not fully commensurate with the rejected claim, the applicant can still overcome the rejection by showing that the differences

Attorney's Docket No.: 34874-079 /2003P00155 US

between the claimed invention and the showing under 37 CFR 1.131 would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, in view of applicant's 37 CFR 1.131 evidence, prior to the effective date of the reference(s) or the activity. Such evidence is sufficient because applicant's possession of what is shown carries with it possession of variations and adaptations which would have been obvious, at the same time, to one of ordinary skill in the art (emphasis added)."

Revised Schedule A - Declaration of Undersigned

Submitted with this reply is a revised Schedule A. The undersigned declares that the revised Schedule A is the same underlying document as the previously submitted Schedule A; however, changes have been made such that portions of the previously submitted Schedule A are no longer redacted. In particular, page 4 of the revised Schedule A indicates the subject matter is expected to be an improvement of Enterprise Portal 6.0.

Declaration

The subject matter of independent claims 1, 7, and 18 is shown by the Rule 1.131 declaration of Kai Ullrich in combination with Schedule A and the above declaration of the undersigned to be conceived and constructively reduced to practice, through diligent work with a patent attorney, prior to the effective date of the Busboom reference; thus, the Busboom reference is not prior art.

Regarding conception, the declaration and Schedule A evidence possession of the claimed subject matter by the inventor at least prior to the effective date of the Busboom reference. In particular, at a minimum, Schedule A evidences conception before the effective date of the Busboom reference, as will be discussed below with each of the independent claims. The declaration of Kai Ullrich also evidences the Schedule A as being part of a diligent, constructive reduction to practice at least as early as the filing of the present patent application. See paragraph 4 of declaration.

Claim 1

Regarding claim 1, claim 1 recites:

"A computer-implemented method of providing content in a portal, the method comprising:

receiving a request from a user for a portal content component; and
determining whether the user has satisfied a previous authentication requirement for the portal that is equal to or greater than an authentication requirement for the portal content component, wherein the portal content

Attorney's Docket No.: 34874-079 /2003P00155 US

component is one of a plurality of portal content components and at least two of the portal content components have different authentication requirements."

Regarding the preamble and the first paragraph of the claim body, page 4 of Schedule A shows that the authentication schemes were expected to be included in SAP's Enterprise Portal, and thus evidences possession of these features. For example, the combination of page 4's "Authschemes can be associated to resources in such a software system. Every time a resource is being accessed by a user the software system checks whether the user did log in previously" and the indication that the invention was an improvement of Enterprise Portal, which by its name indicates an enterprise portal solution, indicate the claimed features were in the possession of the inventor.

Regarding the second paragraph of the claim body, possession of "determining whether the user has satisfied a previous authentication requirement for the portal" is also shown for at least the reasons discussed in the previous paragraph.

Regarding "authentication requirement for the portal that is equal to or greater than an authentication requirement for the portal content component," possession is shown by page 3, where "Different applications may require different authschemes. For instance, administrative applications may require a higher-priority authscheme than normal application due to access to sensitive data."

Regarding the features of "wherein the portal content component is one of a plurality of portal content components and at least two of the portal content components have different authentication requirements," those features are also shown in the possession of the inventor for at least the reasons discussed above with reference to page 3 of Schedule A.

Claim 7

Claim 7 recites:

"A computer-implemented method of providing content in a portal, the method comprising:
receiving a request from a user to access the portal; and
in response to the request, providing a selected one of a plurality of authentication mechanisms for authenticating the user and enabling access to the portal, wherein each authentication mechanism includes a different authentication requirement."

For at least the reasons discussed above with regards to the claim 1, features of claim 7 are shown to be possessed by the inventor at least before the date of the Busboom reference as claim 7

Attorney's Docket No.: 34874-079 /2003P00155 US

includes similar features. For example, the preamble and first paragraph of the body of claim 7 include features similar to the preamble and first paragraph of the body of claim 1.

Claim 18

Claim 18 recites:

A system for providing content in a portal, the system comprising.
a portal content directory storing a plurality of portal content components,
each portal content component having an authentication requirement for access thereto, wherein at least two of the portal content components have different authentication requirements;
a portal runtime engine for receiving portal content component requests and for displaying one or more requested portal content components; and
an authenticator configured to determine whether the user has satisfied a previous authentication requirement for the portal that is equal to or greater than an authentication requirement for a requested portal content component.

For at least the reasons discussed above with regards to the claim 1, features of claim 18 are shown to be possessed by the inventor at least before the date of the Busboom reference as claim 18 includes similar features. Features that may differ between claim 18 and claim 1, if not otherwise literally disclosed in the Schedule A are submitted as being inherent components of an enterprise portal solution, such as previous versions of SAP's Enterprise Portal solution or obvious modifications of such a solution in view of Schedule A, and, thus, are shown by Schedule A to be in the possession of the inventor.

Dependent Claim Features

Some features are alleged in the office action to not be in the possession of the inventor, such as "providing the user an option for selecting one of the plurality of authentication mechanisms." However, these features are from dependent claims. Given that Busboom is not prior art to the independent claims and the independent claims are allowable, the dependent claims are allowable for at least the reasons of the independent claims and a swearing before the effective date of the Busboom reference of any additional subject matter of the dependent claims need not be made.

Attorney's Docket No.: 34874-079 /2003P00155 US

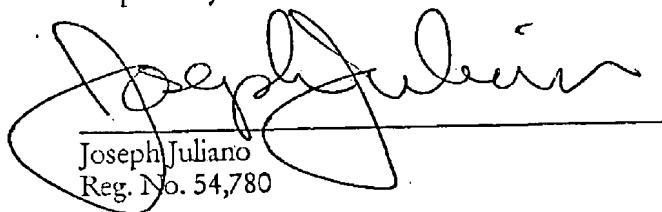
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper.

On the basis of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If there are any questions regarding these remarks, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 34874-079-UTL. In addition, please change the attorney docket number for this matter to: 34874-079/2003P00155 US.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 4, 2007


Joseph Juliano
Reg. No. 54,780

Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.
9255 Towne Centre Drive, Suite 600
San Diego, CA 92121
Customer No. 64280
Tel.: 858/320-3031
Fax: 858/320-3001

TRA 2255443v.1